

Edlesborough Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 17th February 2011

Minutes of the meeting of the Edlesborough Parish Council held on Thursday 17th February 2011 at Edlesborough Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present

Cllr Cabbage, (Chairman), Cllr Williams, Cllr Brown. Cllr Mrs Prys-Jones, Cllr Mrs Ratheram, Clerk-Lin Sargeant

Apologies:

Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Wilson, District Cllr Terry Jones

Minutes of Previous Meeting

After reporting one minor amendment the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Matters Arising from the previous Minutes

Following a previous concern regarding the requirements of obtaining an Energy Performance Certificate relating to the Memorial Hall the Clerk had received the following question and very helpful advice from AVDC which had been raised by another Parish Council.

Q: "We have been approached by someone trying to tell us that halls for hire need an Energy Performance Certificate. We cannot find documentary evidence to support this supposedly legal requirement which could leave the management committees/building owners (us) liable to prosecution apparently if they do not have one in place."

A: "Public buildings are subject of Display Energy Certificates (DECs) (scored on how you use the building) only if they are financed by public funds, open to the public **and** have a floor area of 1,000sq. mt or greater. Whilst all Parish Council buildings would probably meet the two former criteria I would doubt if any meet the latter (floor area). As regards Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) (scored on building design), these would only be required with a new building, change in contract tenant or new occupant. If none of these were the case I would contend that there is no requirement for an EPC. Typical hiring of a hall for an activity does not fall into any of the above. If you would like to point these people at me the next time they call any of you, I would be happy to clarify the law with them."

Declarations of Interest – None declared

Memorial to Anne Thompson

Cllr Mrs Prys-Jones put forward the suggestion for the Parish Council to provide a Memorial Cup 'The Anne Thompson – Young Persons' Photographer of the Parish'. Entrants would be for children/young people up to the age of 18 and a new theme would be used each year. The cup to be presented annually at the Carnival on Edlesborough Green.

It was unanimously agreed to this proposal and Cllr Mrs Prys-Jones agreed to lead this project. She would visit the Edlesborough and Dagnall schools in due course to help publicise the event.

Finance Reports:

Accounts for the month ended January 2011 were presented, queries were discussed and the accounts approved. A final discussion took place on the budget for 2011/12, following which it was unanimously approved. An acceptable letter had been received from the External Auditors regarding the Parish Council's concerns.

Authorisation of cheques (February including VAT)

The following cheques had been authorised for payment:

Administration & Office expenses (including telephone)	230.23
Memorial Hall/Pavilion expenses (incl electric, water, gas)	440.00
Salaries (including PAYE/NIC)	1,507.16
Notice board expenses including fixing new Rights of Way maps	82.76
Cemetery expenses	302.50
Children's Play area expenses	97.50
Repairs to Kissing Gate on the Green	312.00
The Chiltern Society membership for 2011	25.00
Northall Village Hall hedge cutting and maintenance	810.00
EDaN expenses for Carnival stalls and post code stationery	79.53
New numbering for Remembrance Day notice boards	18.00
Total	£3,904.68

Planning

The following applications had been received, were discussed by the meeting and the following responses were agreed to be submitted to AVDC

11/00040/APP 10th January 2011	Beacon View South End Lane Northall	Two detached dwelling houses	OBJECT on the basis that the two plots are outside the built area of the village and would only be permissible under policy RA14 if they constituted rounding of the existing boundary, which they do not. Beacon View was originally permitted even though it was in open countryside outside the village boundary, because it was classified as a brownfield site due to its previous commercial use. The site was therefore not required to comply with RA14. The plots for the two proposed houses are not part of the footprint occupied by the previous industrial buildings and as such are not brownfield and are therefore subject to RA14.
11/00212/AGN 3rd February 2011	Goose Hill Farm Ringshall Road Dagnall	Erection of grain, fertilizer and machinery store	No Objections
11/00130/APP 21st January 2011	12 Heather Mead Edlesborough	Single storey side and rear extension and garage conversion	No Objections

No approvals or refusals had been received.

Plot 1 Land adjacent to The Swan, South End Lane, Northall

This application to change Plot 1 from a single detached house to a block of 3 terraced houses has been permitted

'The Bell' Public House applications had gone before the Development Control committee and a site visit would be made prior to any decision being taken.

County & District Councillors Reports

None given

Correspondence received

BALC – notification of a meeting on 29th March 5-8pm at Chalfont St. Peter Parish Council cost £30 for members – A Practical Course for Clerks and Councillors the subject being "Did you Know that Common Land is Unique?"

Bucks CC News release – Scrutiny recommendations on budget proposals.

Press Release – More help on hand for victims of anti-social behaviour.

Sustainable Communities Act Update

Vale of Aylesbury Plan –feedback included in pack

Bucks CC Press Release – Bucks CC Cllr Bill Lidgate has been reprimanded and suspended for 28 days following a two day hearing by the Standards Committee with allegations of failure to treat 2 council officers and a fellow member with respect, bullying, and bringing the office of county councillor or the authority into disrepute.

Bucks CC – Investing in County's infrastructure for long term savings

Bucks CC – Buckinghamshire's civil parking enforcement services up for scrutiny.

List of items which were placed on the Councillors table

No relevant SBDC applications

Aylesbury Vale Association of Local Councils – Executive Committee Annual Report 2010

Vale of Aylesbury – Advantage news letter

Community Impact Bucks – February Newsletter

Rural Services Network newsletter

Community Impact Bucks – Impact Spring magazine

Thames Valley Police – February Newsletter

EDaN Project

Cllr Williams reported as follows:

Permission had been given by Bucks CC for the positioning of the Northall Village sign at Knolls View.

The Great Horwood Band had been booked for the May Day celebrations.

Letters have been distributed to the appropriate parishioners regarding change of addresses to Edlesborough from Eaton Bray to conform with Edlesborough post codes informing them of what is happening.

EDaN have been given an award to hold a further Concert at Edlesborough Church on 16th July and they are also endeavouring to arrange other activities/concerts on the Friday and Sunday of that weekend.

A Youth event will be held on Saturday 26th March from 1 – 4pm for children and youths between the ages of 11-17 years.

The Community Car Scheme is shortly to be in operation.

The Speedwatch teams will be continuing the speed checks.

A grant of £750 has been received from the Community Leaders Fund (via County Councillor Avril Davies) towards the cost of purchasing and installing 6 cycle racks around the Parish.

Traffic Calming;

Speed Limit Review

The Parish Council have accepted a quotation for the supply of 30mph and 40mph dustbin stickers to be issued to all relevant households when the speed limit signs are changed.

Winter Gritting

An acknowledgement has been received from Bucks CC who will consider the request for Pebblemoor to be salted in next winter's programme.

Dagnall 'Build Out'/Traffic Island

As will be read in the Local Area Forum report this project has been successful in receiving additional funding from Bucks CC with the possibility of installing a pedestrian type crossing rather than a 'build out' or traffic island.

General Purpose Committee report

No GPC meeting had taken place in February but the project to refurbish the existing Memorial Hall car park was discussed and approval given for the two quotations received to be accepted and for work to commence as soon as possible

Local Area Forum Report

Cllr Williams and the Clerk attended the LAF meeting held on 15th February 2011 which was held at Ivinghoe.

Under 'Matters Arising' it was mentioned that Edlesborough Parish Council had complained about not being previously informed by Bucks CC that the Speed Camera at Church End was to be switched off. We were informed that the camera will not be removed or switched off and will be taken over and monitored by Thames Valley Police.

Also the question raised by John Wilkinson regarding closed churchyards had been dealt with via e-mails.

Question Time

Various questions were raised by the Parish Councils regarding the winter gritting, parking on grass verges, repair of pot holes, including volume of traffic on village roads, lack of public transport, filling salt bins. Simon Dudley gave an update on many of these issues and stated that the bill for repairing pot holes last year throughout the county had amounted to £3.5m. Regarding lack of public transport the parishes were informed that taxi tokens were available by contacting AVDC and many parishes were organising their own Shared Car Schemes. When questioned about the elimination of the county subsidy to rural buses Avril Davies advised that this and other measures were being reviewed and voted on at a special meeting on Thursday morning.

Bucks CC were requested to consider a temporary replacement if a County Councillor was unable to carry out their duties due to illness.

Major Event to take place in September 2011

Nick Rusling and fellow colleagues of 'Participate' explained details of the event which would involve 5,000 women cyclists, led by a top Olympic cyclist, the measures being undertaken to reduce the impact of road closures and outlined the bursaries available to communities to encourage local support for the race which will take begin and finish at Whipsnade Wild Animal Park and travel through the villages of Dagnall, Ringshall, Ivinghoe, Ivinghoe Aston, Cheddington, Marsworth, Wingrave, Mentmore, and Slapton. The main charity to benefit is MacMillan and cyclists taking part would be able to nominate their own individual charities. Each Parish would have five free places in the race.

AVDC Update

Budget

Jon McGinty provided an update on the Budget where no significant changes have had to be made to the broad range of services currently enjoyed by residents which will be achieved without the need for large scale redundancies and a council tax freeze within the financial constraints.

Growth after the Core Strategy

Councils to be more involved in the decisions of housing in their areas

Aylesbury major projects update

A revamp of the Aqua Vale swimming and fitness centre in Aylesbury, work expected to commence Spring 2011.

The construction of phase three of the council's offices which will see the existing Oculus conference centre at The Gateway offices, due to open early 2012, extended to generate more income whilst releasing the office site in the High Street for retail/leisure development.

Provisional approval given for the construction of a Waitrose, Travelodge Hotel and new car park on south side of Exchange street (theatre side).

A planning application for the National Enterprise Academy (the first ever educational institution solely dedicated to enterprise and entrepreneurship for young people, aged 16-19) to be submitted before Christmas 2011.

Possible relocation of the refuse and recycling depot current based in Aylesbury to move to Calvert.

The Civic Centre car park has been closed to enable redevelopment to take place and a temporary flat surface car park will open in Autumn 2011. There are currently over 900 short stay spaces in the AVDC car parks within a few minutes walk.

Local Enterprise Partnership

The South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnerships (which includes Aylesbury Vale) has been given the green light by Government.

Local grants Awarded 2010/2011

Members were given details of grants awarded through the Community Chest Micro Grants, Vital Village Grants and Business Grants.

Thames Valley Neighbourhood Police Update

Insp. Emma Garside explained the need to cut costs across all areas of police responsibilities involving restructuring and re-deployment of posts. Aylesbury Vale will be protecting the front line officers and existing PCSOs will remain with a new PCSO currently being trained. Overall crime has been reduced by 20% compared to the previous year.

In Wing South the number of thefts and crime has decreased, in Wing North these figures have increased.

The current problem being theft of metal.

Thames Valley Police are continuing their work with Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire police to combat crime.

Update Report for Transport for Buckinghamshire

Delegated Budgets

Transport for Buckinghamshire were pleased to announce an increase in the amount of funding which would be available.

It was proposed by the Chairman, County Councillor Avril Davies, that the Delegated Budget awarded to Edlesborough Parish Council for the Dagnall 'Build Out' project in 2010/11 be increased as this was still in the planning stages, and that Aston Abbotts' bid for Phase 2 of the footpath from the village to the A418 crossroads be approved. This was seconded by Pitstone Parish Council and agreed. If any money should be left over the LAF would consider other bids that had been submitted.

Area Maintenance

The majority of work currently being carried out is directed at filling potholes, category 1 potholes that are received by the Contact Centre are prioritised in order of road classification, the remainder being carried out on a continual basis throughout the county.

Sign erection, white lining and gully emptying are continuing as per programme and salt bins being replenished when required.

Localism and what it means for the Local Community

Jon McGinty gave a presentation and brief overview of the key principles of The Big Society and how the concept may apply locally, followed by a presentation by Community Impact Bucks on how it would affect the voluntary sector. He said that a NIMBY approach to development would result in the Government 'top-slicing' the contribution to local funding to 'punish' local areas that do not meet expectations for housing growth.

Pilot Freight Quality Partnership Update

Chairman, Avril Davies, reported that following a recent meeting a working group had been set up to work out an action plan, details to be made known in due course. Alan is on the team.

Items for Information

Libraries – meetings had been held at Ivinghoe and Wing.

Census information

Census day is 27th March 2011 and as been taken every ten years since 1801.

Paper questionnaires will be posted out to every household from 4th March and can be completed online or by post. Addresses showing no completion will be visited by ONS (Office for National Statistics). Census collectors will help people where necessary to complete the questionnaires.

Every household and every individual person resident (or expecting to be resident) in England or Wales for at least 3 months on census day will have to take part in the census. Help will be available if necessary from census collectors or from www.census.gov.uk All information given is confidential and secure.

Anyone not returning a questionnaire may be prosecuted, could face a criminal record and may be fined up to £1,000.

LTP3

Cllr Williams was still in the process of gathering more information,.

The Villages – (issues other than Traffic Calming and matters delegated to the GPC)

Edlesborough: 2 requests received for events to be held on the Green, one from Churches Together to hold another 'Songs of Praise' in on 12th September and for a Race Day to be held in June. Both events were approved subject to confirmation that they would not interfere with other sporting activities which would take priority.

Edlesborough: Further mentioned has been made in the March issue of Focus regarding the continuing problems with Dog Fouling and the Police have been requested to make night patrols.

Edlesborough: Waiting for a further response from Anglian Water.

Northall: Clerk to report to BCC that the VAS sign is not working.

Dagnall Councillors

No response had been received for anyone to represent Dagnall Ward on the Parish Council. With the forthcoming elections in May it was agreed that notices would be placed on the village notice boards informing parishioners that there would be '9 vacancies on the Parish Council coming up for election. Please submit your name to the Clerk if you would like to offer yourself for election'

Items for the Agendas for the Council meeting to be held on Thursday 17th March 2011

Memorial to Anne Thompson

Agree Budget

LTP3

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY 17th March 2011 commencing 7.30pm
at EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL